Banks in Jharkhand has shown a gradual increase from 27.39% in 2003-04 to 30.55% in 2004-05 and 33.53% upto December, 2005.

(c) The steps taken for enhancing CD Ratio in States, including Jharkhand include *inter alia*:

(i) CDR is monitored in the State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meetings for identifying measures for enhancing the CDR in the states.

(ii) Government had constituted an Expert Group to go into the nature and magnitude of the problems across States/Regions where CDR is less than 60% and suggest steps to over come the problems. The recommendations of the group have been accepted by the Government.

RBI has accordingly issued necessary instructions on 9th November, 2005 to all Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), including Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) for constituting of Special Sub-Committees (SSCs) under District Level Coordination Committee (DLCC) in all the Districts having CDR of less than 40.

Disinvestment of Shares in PSUs

3227. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to disinvest shares in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) if so, what are those PSUs and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that some allies of Government are opposing the disinvestment; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Government has decided, in principle, to list profitable Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) each with a Net Worth in excess of Rs. 200 crore on domestic stock exchanges and to selectively sell small portions of equity in listed, profitable CPSEs (other than the navratnas). Disinvestment decisions are taken by the Government on a case-by-case basis by following the established procedure.

(b) Government has recently decided to disinvest 5% out of its equity shareholding of 100 per cent in Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC) and also to disinvest 15% out of its equity shareholding of 98.384% in National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC) through 'Offer for Sale' in the domestic market. The disinvestment by Government in PFC would be through piggy-back on the public issue being done by PFC. The proceeds from disinvestment of Government equity in CPSEs would be channelised into the "National Investment Fund" (NIF). NIF has been constituted in 2005-06. The annual income of NIF will be used to finance selected social sector schemes, which promote education, health and employment and to meet the capital investment requirements of profitable and revivable CPSEs that yield adequate returns, in order to enlarge their capital base to finance expansion/diversification.

(c) and (d) The Government will abide by the policy articulated in the National Common Minimum Programme.

Review of credit policies of banks

3228. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to make banks to go beyond the traditional role of purveyors of credit and become collaborators with others in finding a holistic solution; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this direction so far and in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) To enable the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to carry out their functions efficiently and without impediment, Government announced an autonomy package for the public sector banks on 22.02.2005 which, *inter alia*, allows them to pursue new lines of business as part of overall business strategy and make suitable acquisitions of companies or businesses, close/merge unviable branches, open overseas offices, set up subsidiaries and exit a line of business, subject to statutory requirements, Government policy prescriptions and regulatory guidelines issued by RBI from time to time.